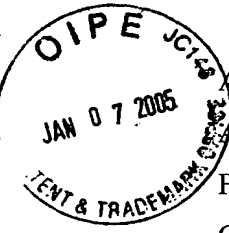


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/992,164
Applicant(s): Reiko IZUME and Yoshihiro HARA
For: IMAGE RETRIEVING APPARATUS
Confirmation No.: 6899
Customer No.: 24367
Docket No.: 15162/04170
Filed: November 6, 2001
Group Art Unit: 2621
Examiner: Phuoc Tran
Date Allowed: October 5, 2004

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

January 4, 2005

Date of Deposit

DOUGLAS A. SORENSEN

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative



Signature

January 4, 2005

Date of Signature

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.312

This Amendment is filed in response to the Notice of Allowability mailed October 5, 2004, which provides for a response period ending January 5, 2005.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 3 of this paper.

Serial No.: 09/992,164

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. 1.312 dated January 4, 2005

Response to Notice of Allowability dated October 5, 2004

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

The Transmittal of Issue Fee is being filed concurrently herewith.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows: